PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 051438-5002

## JAN 25 2007 W

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
Nadine BURTON et al.	) Confirmation No.: 8062
Application No.: 10/712,265	) Group Art Unit: 3761
Filed: November 14, 2003	) Examiner: L. Hill
For: MEDICAL VACUUM ASPIRATION DEVICE	) Mail Stop Issue Fee )
Commissioner for Patents	

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Issue Fee
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

## **COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants do not believe that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Communication dated November 21, 2006 (mailed December 8, 2006) is warranted/proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(e) and MPEP § 1302.14.

While Applicants believe that the claims are allowable and patentably distinguish over the prior art, Applicants do not agree that patentability over the prior art requires the features identified by the Examiner. Applicants also disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the prior art references contained in the Notice of Allowance and intend to file a continuation application these aspects of the invention.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: January 25, 2007

John D. Zele

Registration No. 39,887

CUSTOMER NO. 009629 MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004 202-739-3000